

IN THESE OR DATE FILED

Dkt. 02-271

From: joe cribabople
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Feb 16, 2003 4:35 PM
Subject: Media Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Powell:

I am writing to tell you of my opposition to the proposed changes by your agency to the current Media Ownership Rules.

Further concentration of media ownership does not serve our democratic society based upon democratic principles, but instead undermines it. Following World War II, our government placed restrictions upon news media outlet ownership because of how totalitarian regimes used controlled media concentrated in the hands of a few corporations and government agencies to control their people and move the world towards war. The proposed changes to the current Media Ownership Rules completely undermines this principle that so many Americans have fought to defend from our countrys birth to the present.

Furthermore, the series of reports released by the FCC about the current media marketplace are focused almost entirely on the economic impact of relaxing the ownership rules. They ignore the public's interest in a diverse and independent press. You have also scheduled only one public hearing regarding this issue. The FCC has barely publicized the proposed changes, and combined with a very short public comment period I can only surmise that you hope to sneak these changes past the American people. I certainly didnt find out about them as a result of anything that was done by your agency.

You should be ashamed that an agency under your leadership is not using what is in the best interests of the American public as its guiding principle, but instead is thinking of what is most profitable for a few huge corporations who only care about the bottom line, not about what is good for democracy.

Haven't you propertarians heard of Freedom?

Sincerely Yours

David Nowosad

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BY ORDER OF CLERK FILED

From: Heeren, Paula
To: Mike Powell
Date: Sun, Feb 16, 2003 7:27 PM
Subject: ownership rules

I hope I am not too late in reiterating my request that rules remain in place that limit the amount of information access that can be controlled **by** one owner. America needs more, not fewer, powerful voices. If wealthy owners are allowed to **buy** up all they can afford, their voices will be the loudest. Modern society is isolating; the media are often the only source of information for citizens who know few people who disagree with us. We need to encourage discourse. Diversity in media ownership **is** one simple way **to do** that. Please do not relax the ownership rules.

Paula S. Heeren
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